

# TECHNICAL NOTES

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Boise, Idaho

SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

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TN - <sup>Forestry</sup> WOODLAND NO. 5

## DEFINITION OF WOODLAND INTERMEDIATE CUTTING

Certain woodland management practices are applicable for immature stands of timber. This technical note lists the types of intermediate cuttings and defines what each term means. Refer to Woodland Technical Note No. 4 for types of harvest cuttings of mature stands of timber and their definitions. If the decision-maker plans to improve the existing stand of trees, the stand will be considered immature and one or more of the following practices should be applied. If the decision-maker decides to harvest the present stand and start a new one, the stand will be considered mature and one or more of the practices listed in Technical Note No. 4 will be applied.

### Thinning:

Cuttings made in immature stands in order to stimulate the growth of the trees that remain and to increase the total yield. <sup>1/</sup> This practice may involve removing some trees which are of high quality.

### Release Cutting:

Cutting undesirable trees and brush to give more growing space or sunlight to a young stand of desirable trees not past the sapling stage. (4" D.B.H.)

1. Cleaning - cutting made to free best trees from inferior trees of same age.
2. Liberation Cuttings (overstory removal) - cuttings made to free a young stand from older less desirable trees.
3. Weeding - denotes removal of all competing plants, regardless of whether their crowns are above, beside or below the desirable trees.

### Improvement Cutting:

Cuttings made in stands past the sapling stage to improve composition and quality.

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<sup>1/</sup> The Practice of Silviculture, 7th Edition, David M. Smith, 1962.

Salvage Cutting:

Cuttings made to remove trees that have been killed, damaged or are in danger of being killed or damaged by insects, disease, fire, etc.

Sanitation Cutting:

Cuttings made to prevent insects and disease infected trees from spreading their pests to other trees.